

15th February, 1960

NEW SOUTH WALES

DIGEST OF CURRENT STATISTICS

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GENERAL = New South Wales

Economic activity in the State and the Commonwealth expanded throughout 1959. New records were attained in the State in employment and in the production of power, steel, engines, motors and many electrical and other building fittings, as well as in house, flat and commercial building and in motor vehicle registrations. Domestic and foreign trade revived during the year, savings and trading bank deposits reached new peaks and a firm tone was maintained on the stock exchange and in the investment market. Australian retail and wholesale price index numbers increased by $2\frac{1}{2}$ per cent. during the year and increases in wool and some other commodity prices led to a rise of 17 per cent. in the export price index. Good spring and summer rains in most parts of the State brought favourable rural prospects, and the production of wool, wheat and dairy products this season seems likely to exceed that of recent years.

PART I - EMPLOYMENT AND NON-RURAL INDUSTRIESEMPLOYMENT (See also graph p. 178)

(The civil employment series excludes defence forces, rural workers and women in private domestic service).

Commonwealth Employment Service reports and factory surveys (see overleaf) indicate that the general upward trend in the demand for labour in New South Wales and Australia continued in the last quarter of 1959. Civil employment in New South Wales rose by 10,400 in November 1959 and was then 26,200 or 2.3 per cent. higher than a year earlier. The increase in recent months was mainly in private employment; Government employment of 270,200 in November was less than in the middle of the year and only 1.2 per cent. higher than a year earlier. Between November, 1958 and 1959, male and female employment each increased by about 13,000, but the proportion of females (which was 27.7 per cent. in November 1955) rose from 28.2 per cent. to 28.5 per cent.

Employment increased between November 1958 and 1959 mainly in factories, finance, trade and the professional services. The building group regained some of the decrease of the two preceding years, but, as in 1958, employment declined in mining, sea and rail transport and in hotels, etc.

WAGE AND SALARY EARNERS IN CIVIL EMPLOYMENT - New South Wales

Month	Males	Females	Persons		
			Government	Private	Total
1951 - November	778,100	298,600	243,300	828,400	1,076,700
1954 - January	760,100	281,100	246,100	795,100	1,041,200
1958 - September	810,300	315,100	266,000	859,400	1,125,400
October	813,000	315,600	266,100	862,500	1,128,600
November	816,500	317,800	267,000	867,300	1,134,300
1959 - June	819,200	320,300	270,900	868,600	1,139,500
September	823,000	324,000	269,900	877,100	1,147,000
October	824,000	326,100	269,100	881,000	1,150,100
November	829,500	331,000	270,200	890,300	1,160,500

November	Mining & Quarrying	Factories	Building & Construction	Transport & Commun.	Finance & Property	Wholesale Trade	Retail Trade	Prof. & Personal Services	TOTAL Incl. Others
1957	27,700	431,200	73,200	129,600	44,400	70,400	102,900	166,500	1,130,700
1958	24,800	432,300	69,800	132,400	45,400	70,200	102,100	168,900	1,134,300
1959	22,800	447,100	71,900	131,600	49,000	72,100	103,500	174,300	1,160,500

Civil employment rose to record or near-record levels in all States during November. The Australian total of 2,973,900 was 68,100 or 2.3 per cent. higher than in November, 1958, as compared with increases of about 0.9 per cent. and 0.4 per cent. in the two preceding years. Proportionally the greatest gains in this and earlier periods were in Victoria and South Australia.

WAGE AND SALARY EARNERS IN CIVIL EMPLOYMENT = Australia

November	N.S.W.	Victoria	Qld.	South A.	West A.	Tas.	ACT/NT	AUSTRALIA
1957	1,130,700	832,500	373,200	249,300	184,800	88,100	21,000	2,879,600
1958	1,134,300	842,200	381,100	251,000	185,500	88,700	23,000	2,905,800
1959	1,160,500	865,500	382,700	260,700	188,600	90,700	24,200	2,973,900

A survey of larger privately-owned factories in New South Wales (by the Department of Labour and National Service and the Commonwealth Statistician) shows progressive increases in employment since the second half of 1959. There is often a seasonal decrease in January but this year an increase of 900 brought employment to the record of 230,800. Engagements of apprentices and trainees and general expansion in the steel and metal-working industries more than offset seasonal retrenchments in the food and some other industries. Between January 1959 and 1960 the total rose by 9,500 or 4.3 per cent. as compared with increases of 3,200 and 5,100 one and two years previously.

EMPLOYMENT IN LARGER PRIVATE FACTORIES SURVEYED - New South Wales

Industrial Group	Jan. '57	Jan. '58	Jan. '59	Mar. '59	Oct. '59	Dec. '59	Jan. '60
Building Materials	16,400	16,500	17,000	16,900	16,900	16,900	16,900
Basic Materials	35,500	38,000	39,300	39,200	40,700	41,000	41,600
Transport Equipment	21,000	22,200	20,800	21,000	22,300	22,300	22,300
Other Metal Mfrs.	50,800	52,800	53,900	53,200	56,300	56,100	57,000
Chemical Products	11,600	11,900	12,200	12,400	12,800	12,800	12,900
Clothing & Textiles	30,400	30,100	30,300	29,400	30,900	30,900	30,800
Food, Drink & Tobacco	21,700	21,100	21,700	21,700	22,300	22,900	22,300
Other Industry	25,600	25,500	26,100	25,600	27,000	27,000	27,000
Total : Men	162,000	166,300	168,800	167,900	173,700	174,400	175,400
Women	51,000	51,800	52,500	51,500	55,400	55,500	55,400
Persons	213,000	218,100	221,300	219,400	229,100	229,900	230,800
Total, excl. Food, etc.	191,300	197,000	199,600	197,700	206,800	207,000	208,500

The number of unplaced applicants registered with Commonwealth Employment Service offices in New South Wales usually reaches a seasonal peak in December and January because of holiday shut-downs, termination of Christmas trading and the entry of school leavers. However, the increase of 3,500 to 23,600 between November 1959 and January 1960 was only about half that of January-November, 1958/9 and less also than in that period of the three previous years. Unfilled vacancies were 14,600 at the end of January 1960 and were over 4000 greater than one and two years previously. Reports from firms indicate that staff reductions were mainly of a seasonal character and that the demand for labour was well maintained. Vacancies registered during the month increased for metal tradesmen and unskilled and semi-skilled male workers as well as for women as office and service workers. The number of persons receiving unemployment benefit in the State rose by 900 to 7,900 between November 1959 and January 1960 but this was much less than in January 1959 or 1958. In Australia unplaced applicants in January decreased from 81,900 in 1959 to 69,000 in 1960, and the number of persons on unemployment benefit decreased from 31,500 to 23,800 while the number of unfilled vacancies rose from 27,400 to 38,000, respectively.

COMMONWEALTH EMPLOYMENT SERVICE = New South Wales and A.C.T.

	1951	1952	1958		1959			1960
	August	Dec.	Jan.	Dec.	Jan.	Nov.	Dec.	Jan.
UNPLACED APPLICANTS:								
(Not at Work) Males	2,800	28,600	19,300	18,000	22,100	11,800	12,700	14,400
Females	1,500	7,100	8,100	9,000	10,200	8,300	8,400	9,200
Metrop. Area Persons	n.a.	28,600	15,000	14,000	15,400	8,700	8,700	10,700
Rest of State "	n.a.	7,100	12,400	13,000	16,900	11,400	12,400	12,900
Total "	4,300	35,700	27,400	27,000	32,300	20,100	21,100	23,600
EMPLOYED APPLICANTS:								
(Seeking Job Change)								
Persons	4,300	3,000	5,800	6,300	6,300	7,600	7,600	7,000
UNFILLED VACANCIES "	58,900	5,900	10,400	10,400	10,500	17,900	16,000	14,600
PERSONS RECEIVING								
UNEMPLOYMENT BENEFIT								
Persons	100	25,100	9,900	11,900	12,800	7,000	7,400	7,900

INDUSTRIAL DISPUTES = New South Wales

Preliminary estimates show that working time lost through industrial disputes in New South Wales in the year 1959 totalled 190,000 man-working days. That is 11 per cent. less than in 1958 and the lowest figure since the early nineteen-thirties. Between 1949 and 1957 dispute losses ranged from 492,000 to a million man-working days a year. Most of the dispute losses in 1959 were through one-day strikes held in protest against dismissals or over issues such as margins, bonuses, inter-union demarcation and working conditions. There were no major disputes of long duration.

INDUSTRIAL DISPUTES - New South Wales - Thousand Man-Working Days Lost

<u>Year or Yearly Ave.</u>	<u>1938</u>	<u>1940-44</u>	<u>1945</u>	<u>1959</u>	<u>1955</u>	<u>1956</u>	<u>1957</u>	<u>1958</u>	<u>1959x</u>
Coal Mines	714	473	630	734	208	171	181	124	82
Other Mines	12	10	23	36	-	7	-	3	6
Other Employment	213	328	1226	248	489	464	311	88	102
All Industries	939	811	1879	1018	697	642	492	215	190

x Preliminary

There has been a marked decrease in dispute losses in coal mines. As a percentage of possible production time they fell from 19% in 1949-50 and approximately 10% in 1950 to 1953, to 6% in 1955 and 1957, 4% in 1958 and about 2½% in 1959. Losses in 1959 included a number of one-day strikes in protest against dismissals and delay in the hearing of pay claims. Most other disputes in 1959 were in the metal, steel and building industries and their incidence on the waterfront was less than in recent years.

MINERAL PRODUCTION = New South Wales

Mineral production in New South Wales declined in both 1958 and 1959. Compared with the peak of 1957 the metallic contents of ores produced in 1959 showed decreases of 16 per cent. for zinc, 8 per cent. for lead, 14 per cent. for silver, 16 per cent. for copper and 52 per cent. for gold. However, through higher prices the output value of metallic minerals in 1959 was maintained near the 1958 figure and an estimated decrease in total value of mining output from £70.6m. in 1958 to £70.5m. was mainly due to a fall in the value of coal output.

MINERAL PRODUCTION = New South Wales

		<u>Year</u>			
		<u>1956</u>	<u>1957</u>	<u>1958</u>	<u>1959Prel.</u>
<u>Metallic Contents:</u>					
Copper	000 tons	4.3	4.4	4.0	3.7
Lead	" "	238	267	247	246
Zinc	" "	229	242	212	203
Silver	000 oz.	9290	9969	8992	8555
Gold	" "	29	31	19	13
Antimony	tons	879	1209	1355	1277
Cadmium	"	852	924	812	800
Tin	"	269	211	239	167
Sulphur	000 tons	187	208	198	189
<u>Value of Output</u>					
Metallic Minerals	£mill.	39.9	33.9	22.4	22.5
Coal	"	40.7	40.4	39.9	38.7
Non-Metallic Minerals	"	2.4	2.7	2.8	2.8
Construction Materials	"	5.9	6.5	6.5	6.5
<u>TOTAL VALUE</u>		<u>88.9</u>	<u>83.5</u>	<u>71.6</u>	<u>70.5</u>

C O A L - NEW SOUTH WALES (See also graph p. 179)

The consumption of New South Wales coal, as compiled by the Joint Coal Board, shows that between 1950 and 1959 coal intake by iron and steel works rose steadily from 2.7m. tons to 4.2m. tons and by electricity undertakings from 2.4m. tons to 3.9m. tons, while railway consumption fell during this period from 1.5m. tons to 1m. tons. As a percentage of coal produced, steel and electricity works took 40% in 1950 and 48% and 51% in 1959 while the railway use was halved from 12% to 6% in that period. Use of coal for bunkering and gas-making has also tended downward in recent years while other industrial uses remained near 2½m. tons. Oversea exports of New South Wales coal of 764,000 tons in 1959 were a little less than in 1958 but interstate exports rose and total exports of 2.6m. tons were near the level of recent years. With greater emphasis on coal quality, about 30 percent. of the output is now being washed at mines and a further 20 per cent. at the steelworks. The weight of raw coal is reduced by about one eighth through removal of refuse.

With production steady and demand increasing, New South Wales coal stocks were reduced in 1959 for the first time in several years; at the end of the year they were 3.26m. tons in 1957, 3.70m. tons in 1958 and 3.34m. tons in 1959. Stocks held by consumers remained near 1.6m. tons and the Government owned stockpile at 1m. tons but the stocks which had accumulated at collieries, mainly through lack of orders, were reduced from 1.06m. tons in 1958 to 676,000 tons in 1959.

COAL PRODUCTION AND DISPOSALS = NEW SOUTH WALES = Thousand Tons

Particulars	1950	1955	1957	1958	1959x
<u>Consumption in N.S.W.</u>					
Railway Locomotive	1,516	1,565	1,255	1,099	1,037
Electricity Undertakings	2,427	3,202	3,568	3,660	3,854
Gas Undertakings	893	992	901	803	829
Iron and Steel Refining	2,656	3,283	3,753	3,944	4,183
Bunkers, N.S.W. Ports	485	304	222	216	195
Other Consumers in N.S.W.	2,418	2,514	2,454	2,454	2,453
TOTAL CONSUMED IN N.S.W.	10,395	11,860	12,153	12,176	12,551
<u>Cargo Exports from N.S.W.</u>					
To Victoria	1,167	1,244	943	962	1,025
South Australia	788	992	883	773	797
Other States	158	134	97	94	73
Overseas	61	213	757	796	764
TOTAL EXPORTS N.S.W.	2,174	2,583	2,680	2,625	2,659
Increase in Stocks	220	50	203	436	(-) 340
Mine-Washery Refuse and Dump Losses	9	243	354	614	800
COAL PRODUCED IN YEAR	12,798	14,736	15,390	15,851	15,670

Source: Joint Coal Board.

x Subject to revision.

(-) Decrease.

FACTORY PRODUCTION = New South Wales (See also graph p. 179)

The output in New South Wales of most factory products for which monthly statistics are available was steady or rising in the year 1959. In December quarter production was in most cases higher than a year earlier but for about two thirds of 87 representative items it remained below the peak of earlier years.

Expansion continued in 1959 in the output of basic items such as electricity, iron, steel, bricks and tiles, as well as in many types of building fittings, motors and engines, and electric appliances such as hotwater systems (offsetting a decrease in bath and sink heaters) stoves and television sets. A partial recovery from the earlier decline occurred in the clothing and textile industries and in dairying and wheat gristing products. However, there was still a comparative lag in the production of some types of women's clothing, timber, soap, mattresses, preserved fruit and vegetables and beer.

FACTORY PRODUCTION = New South Wales

	Unit	Year				December Quarter		
		1951/2	1957	1958	1959	1957	1958	1959
Gas	m.therm	106	116.7	115.2	117.2	27.1	26.8	28.2
Electricity	m.kWh.	4,628	7,325	7,929	8,663	1,828	1,995	2,202
Pig Iron	000 tons	1,234	1,950	2,032	2,284	508	509	634
Ingot Steel	000 tons	1,536	2,940	3,120	3,377	747	797	897
Sawn Timber (Native)	m.s.ft.	381	356	378	380	100	104	104
Cement	000 ton	594	935	985	980	239	256	266
Bricks, Clay	million	355	370	400	430	95	103	109
Tiles, Terracotta & Cement	million	43.0	34.6	41.0	45.5	10.2	10.7	11.5
Fibrous Plaster Sheets	m.s.yd.	5.0	5.6	6.1	6.3	1.4	1.5	1.6
Hotwater Systems - Storage (all types)	thousands	28.7	25.7	28.6	34.1	6.8	7.4	9.4
Stoves (excl. stovettes)	thousands	57.5	55.6	64.6	80.8	18.6	19.4	25.0
Elec. Washing Machines Ø	thousands	23.1	74.8	74.8	89.0	17.6	19.4	23.4
Refrigerators Ø	thousands	101	94	112	114	34	38	42
Radio Receivers	thousands	211	248	236	229	72	77	93
Television Receivers	thousands	n.a.	133	214	441	38	39	73
Internal Combustion Engines (excl. Vehicle Engines)	thousands	23	100	158	205	38	66	94
Electric Motors	thousands	452	766	857	980	213	236	300
Motor Bodies	thousands	9.3	65.4	78.0	85.0	18.6	17.8	23.7
Batteries	thousands	990	1043	959	1,042	244	216	251
Woven Cloth -								
Woollen & Worsted Cloth	m.sq.yd.	10.4	6.9	8.1	8.6	2.3	2.0	2.3
Cotton	m.sq.yd.	13.1	17.3	15.7	15.8	3.7	3.7	4.0
Rayon, etc.	m.sq.yd.	6.9	15.0	8.3	8.1	1.7	1.7	2.0
Men's Sports Trousers	thousands	1,128	1,310	1,374	1,640	380	380	470
Women's Cardigans, etc.	000 doz.	101	156	162	141	37	33	34
Hosiery - Men's	000 doz.prs.	377	378	349	320	101	82	105
- Women's	000 doz.prs.	464	642	687	652	166	180	158
Boots, Shoes, Sandals, Slippers	mill.prs.	8.6	9.9	10.3	2.5	2.8	2.7	2.4
Jam	mill.lbs.	29.3	23.3	21.5	22.3	4.0	3.1	4.0
Wheaten Flour	thous.tons	563	526	339	547	101	97	143
Bacon and Ham	mill.lbs.	27.9	23.5	26.5	25.9	8.0	8.3	8.5
Beer	mill.galls.	66.8	94.5	94.2	92.0	29.4	28.1	26.5

x. Subject to revision. Ø Household type.

NEW BUILDING = New South Wales (See also graph p. 179)

Quarter by quarter throughout 1959 more new dwellings were commenced in New South Wales than ever before, and the seasonal peak of 8254 dwellings was attained in September quarter. The year's total of 31,055 dwellings commenced was 12% above the previous record of 1958 while completions rose by 8% to a new peak of 31,313 over the year. There were 17,759 dwellings listed as uncompleted at the end of 1959, which was the lowest since the early post-war years. House completions increased in 1959 by 1578 or nearly 6 per cent., while flats increased by 832 or about 50 per cent. A growing proportion of dwellings commenced are in flats. These comprised 12% of total commencements in 1959 as compared with 8% in 1958, 4% in 1957 and 3% or less in earlier years.

NEW BUILDING - N.S.W. - NUMBER OF DWELLING UNITS IN HOUSES AND FLATS

Quarters	COMMENCEMENTS				COMPLETIONS		UNCOMPLETED End of Period	
	1954	1957	1958	1959	1957	1958	1959	1959
March	7,333	5,949	6,223	7,557	5,703	6,479	6,905	18,676
June	7,086	6,751	6,862	7,357	6,002	7,224	7,925	18,103
September	6,774	6,703	7,721	8,254	5,824	7,494	8,300	18,055
December	6,429	6,057	6,851	7,887P	6,918	7,706	8,183P	17,759
<u>Year</u>								
Houses	26,669	24,191	25,366	27,225P	23,520	27,223	28,801P	14,929P
Flats	953	1,269	2,291	3,830P	927	1,680	2,512P	2,830P
<u>TOTAL</u>	<u>27,622</u>	<u>25,460</u>	<u>27,657</u>	<u>31,055P</u>	<u>24,447</u>	<u>28,903</u>	<u>31,313P</u>	<u>17,759P</u>

P. Preliminary.

In 1959, 36,920 new dwellings were approved in New South Wales or 10 per cent. more than in 1958, and, as is usually the case, approvals exceeded commencements - in this year by 5,865 or about 19 per cent. Approvals for flat dwellings (which made up one sixth of the total) were 2,633 greater, and for houses, 708 greater than in 1958. The increase was confined to private dwellings; those under Government contracts declined from about 4,400 in both 1957 and 1958 to 4,126 in 1959. For building approvals the larger increases between 1958 and 1959 were for dwellings (from £105.9m. to £116.5m.), factories (from £16.2m. to £23.3m.) and for offices and banks (from £19.9m. to £27.5m.), etc. The total value rose from £177.1m. in 1958 to £207m. in 1959; surpassing the previous record of £157.2m. in 1955.

NEW BUILDING APPROVED = New South Wales

	NUMBER			VALUE OF BUILDING APPROVALS (Excl. Land) - £mill.				
	NEW DWELLINGS			Houses & Flats	Hotels, Shops, Offices, Banks	Factories	Other Building	All New Building
	Houses	Flats	Total					
<u>December Qtr.</u>								
1958	7,554	1,070	8,624	26.5	4.1	3.0	6.1	39.7
1959	7,763	2,237	10,000	31.0	11.2	6.9	9.0	58.1
<u>Year</u>								
1956	24,075	931	25,006	78.4	19.4	22.0	28.4	148.2
1957	27,604	1,948	29,552	93.7	18.2	15.2	22.5	149.6
1958	30,231	3,298	33,529	105.9	19.9	16.2	35.1	177.1
1959	30,939	5,981	36,920	116.5	27.5	23.3	39.7	207.0

NEW SOUTH WALES RAILWAYS

Passenger traffic on the State railways has continued to decline but goods traffic began recovering in 1958 and for the latter half of the year increased from 9.41m. tons in 1958 to 10.73m. tons in 1959. Gross earnings were £2.7m. higher in July-December, 1959, and the working surplus of £4.91m. for the half year was £2.36m. more than in 1958 and the highest since 1954.

NEW SOUTH WALES GOVERNMENT RAILWAYS

Year	Six Months ended December					Month of December	
	Passenger Journeys	Goods (excl. Livestock)	Gross Earnings	Working Expenses	Net (a) Earnings	Passenger Journeys	Goods (excl. Livestock)
	Millions	Mill. tons	£ mill.	£ mill.	£ mill.	Millions	Mill. tons
1954	139.7	9.98	39.27	33.63	5.64	22.8	1.67
1957	130.3	9.15	38.22	36.60	1.62	21.7	1.34
1958	127.2	9.41	38.30	35.75	2.55	21.2	1.62
1959	126.3	10.73	41.04	36.13	4.91	20.1	1.74

(a). Excess of gross earnings over working expenses.

New motor vehicles have been registered in record numbers in recent months. An important element has been the notable increase in registration of new station wagons (from 2,400 in 1957 and 7,600 in 1958 to 12,900 in 1959).

Although there has been some substitution of these for cars, more new cars were registered in December (6,500) and in the year 1959 (61,300) than ever before. The increase in cars on the register of 35,700 (to 606,900) in 1959 was less than in 1958 (by 4,000) and in some earlier years. That increase equalled about 58 per cent. of new car registrations, and thus about four in every ten new cars replaced others withdrawn from traffic. The replacement ratio has gradually increased from about 10 per cent. in early post-war years.

A record number of new commercial vehicles (39,300) were registered in 1959, bringing the total on the register to 300,700; in this increase new station wagons (which are classed for registration, as commercial vehicles) had a part and there was an increase in new lorries, utilities and panel van registrations from 23,200 in 1958 to 26,400 (including about 9,000 utilities and panel vans) in 1959. Scrappage rates for commercial vehicles have been about 40% in recent years.

New registrations of road tractors recovered to 1,500 in 1959 after declining progressively from about 1,700 in 1955 to 1,100 in 1958.

New motor cycle registrations numbered only 2,300 in 1959 and were 800 fewer than in 1958. There were 31,300 on the register at the end of the year which was 35 per cent. below the peak of 48,300 in 1952.

Of the new vehicles registered in 1959 about 40 per cent. of the cars, 90 per cent. of the station wagons, and about 50 per cent. of the utilities and panel vans were of Holden make.

MOTOR VEHICLES = NEW SOUTH WALES

Period	Cars	Station Wagons	Lorries, Utilities and Vans	Taxis & Buses	Road Tractors	Motor Cycles	TOTAL
New Vehicles Registered in Year							
1937-38	23,000		10,200	800	200	2,700	36,900
1956	49,400	1,100	22,600	900	1,400	2,700	78,100
1957	53,700	2,400	21,400	1,300	1,400	2,900	82,800
1958	58,400	7,600	23,200	1,400	1,100	3,100	94,800
1959	61,300	12,900	26,400	1,500	1,500	2,300	105,900
Total on Register - End of Period							
Dec. 1939	213,300		76,700	4,800	1,000	24,200	320,000
" 1957	531,500		260,200	8,500	16,400	35,200	851,800
" 1958	571,200		276,400	8,700	16,900	33,900	907,100
" 1959	606,900		300,700	8,800	18,600	31,300	966,300

≠ Including hire cars and tourist vehicles. ♂ Including motor scooters.

NEW SOUTH WALES GOVERNMENT TRAMS AND BUSES

Decreases in working expenses of the Government transport services during the past three years have not quite kept pace with declining revenue, and the deficiency in June-December on working account of the Sydney services rose from £118,000 in 1956 to £234,000 in 1958 and £293,000 in 1959. Surpluses of the Newcastle services have declined, and the combined deficiency for the six months has increased from £53,000 to £182,000 and £266,000 in the respective years. Bus mileage in Sydney has risen steadily in recent years through the replacement of trams.

GOVERNMENT TRAMS & BUSES = WORKING ACCOUNT

Six Months ended December	Gross Earnings	Working Expenses	Balance Excess of Earnings Expenses		BUS MILES		
	Sydney & Newcastle		Sydney	Newcastle	Total	Sydney	Newcastle
			£ thousand			million	
1955	5,511	6,906	- 1,316	- 79	- 1,395	13.6	3.2
1956	7,225	7,273	- 113	+ 65	- 52	13.9	3.1
1957	7,002	7,102	- 168	+ 68	- 100	14.6	3.0
1958	9,761	9,943	- 234	+ 52	- 182	16.8	2.9
1959	6,571	6,837	- 293	+ 27	- 266	17.8	2.9

AIR TRANSPORT = New South Wales & Australia

Air transport figures for New South Wales, for the year ended June 1959, show further increases in paying passengers carried of 39,000 intra-state, of 10,000 interstate and of 9,000 oversea. The number of paying passengers carried on all services increased by 30,000 in 1957-58 and by 58,000 to 1.49m. in 1958-59, and miles flown on all services rose from 33.0m. and 33.2m. to 34.2 respectively. Air freight carried has decreased and at 26,100 in 1958-59, was 4,400 less than in 1957-58 and 9,100 less than in 1955-56, but the weight of mail has remained at about 3000 tons in recent years.

REGULAR AIR SERVICES - NEW SOUTH WALES x

	Paying Passengers Carried				Freight Mail		Miles Flown
	Intrastate	Interstate	Overseas	Total	Carried		All Services
	T h o u s a n d s				Thousand Tons		Mill. Miles
Year 1947-48	95	563	41	699	11.7	1.1	21.7
1957-58	281	999	150	1430	29.8	3.1	33.2
1958-59	320	1009	159	1488	26.1	2.9	34.2
June Qtr.							
1958	79	237	36	352	6.8	.7	8.4
1959	85	265	38	388	6.8	.7	8.5

x Terminating in N.S.W. and operated by Australian-owned airlines.

A small reduction in route mileage and miles flown on Australian domestic services during 1958-59 has accompanied reorganisation of services. Passenger numbers and mileage increased by 5% over the year, and the passenger load factor of 62.3% was also higher than in 1957-58. The weight of mail carried on domestic routes declined by 10% over the year while oversea freight traffic continued to rise.

AUSTRALIAN REGULAR DOMESTIC AIR SERVICES (Excluding International Services)

Year	Route Miles	Miles Flown	Passengers		Freight	Mail	Passenger Load Factor	Mean Passen- ger Journeys
			Number	Miles	Ton	Miles		
			000	mill.	mill.	mill.		
1956-57	97	43.4	2,154	927	37.2	1.58	62.5%	430
1957-58	98	41.9	2,152	935	33.9	1.66	61.5%	434
1958-59	94	41.6	2,266	983	29.7	1.71	62.3%	434

Overseas passenger traffic rose by about 7% over the year.

PORT OF SYDNEY

The quantity of cargo handled in the Port of Sydney in the second half of 1959 was comparatively high. Import cargoes in July-December, 1958 rose from 3.31m. tons to 3.43m. tons in 1959 mainly through increased overseas arrivals of liquid fuels. In addition, the tonnage of oil discharged at Botany Bay (which is not included in Port of Sydney) continued to rise and was equal to about one half of the total import tonnage handled at the Port of Sydney. Intra-state (mainly coal) and interstate imports into Sydney in the period were a little less in 1959 than in recent years. Export cargo from Sydney rose from less than 900,000 tons in the six months of 1957 and 1958 to 1.46m. tons in 1959 and was then the highest for ten years. This reflects mainly a recovery in overseas exports, in particular of wool and wheat.

SHIPPING CARGO IN THE PORT OF SYDNEY (Thousand tons)

Year ended June	OVERSEA		INTERSTATE		INTRASTATE		TOTAL	
	Inward	Outward	Inward	Outward	Inward	Outward	Inward	Outward
1958	2,767	1,137	1,275	433	2,390	55	6,432	1,625
1959	2,963	1,431	1,005	573	2,495	58	6,463	2,006
July - December								
1955	1,653	715	582	337	1,241	2	3,476	1,054
1957	1,323	639	517	231	1,268	16	3,108	886
1958	1,457	574	514	240	1,342	55	3,313	869
1959	1,756	1,016	426	388	1,247	53	3,429	1,457
OVERSEA EXPORTS			IMPORTS					
Sydney			Liquid Fuels, Oil, etc.					
Wheat & Flour			Overseas			Interstate		
Wool			Sydney			Total		
			Botany Bay			Over-sea		
1950	407	226	622	120	4	746	160	
1958	314	229	487	1,449	54	1,990	149	
1959	318	251	719	1,648	85	2,442	211	

PORT STATISTICS

Thousand Tons

July - December

PART II - FINANCE AND TRADE

BANKING=GENERAL - Australia

The Australian money volume (cash in circulation plus deposits other than Government and interbank deposits) increased by £257m. to £3573m. during 1959. It had risen in 1958 at the comparatively modest rate of 2 per cent. p.a. but the increase then quickened and was equivalent to 7 per cent. p.a. in the second half of 1959 which was the highest for some years. Increased business activity and higher prices on local and export markets during 1959 were factors in the increase.

VOLUME OF MONEY = Australia

Month			£ m i l l i o n				Percent. Rise over Year			
			1956	1957	1958	1959	1956	1957	1958	1959
March	-	TOTAL	2,986	3,151	3,266	3,365	2%	5%	3½%	3%
June	-	TOTAL	2,928	3,116	3,189	3,353	1%	6%	2%	5%
September	-	TOTAL	2,944	3,127	3,203	3,439	2½%	6%	2%	7%
December:										
Deposits:	Ø									
Savings Banks			1,189	1,267	1,337	1,461	5%	6½%	5½%	9%
Other Banks: Fixed			283	322	346	357	9%	14%	7½%	3%
: Other			1,223	1,294	1,240	1,350	-2%	6%	-4%	9%
Notes & Coin Issued			380	384	393	405	1½%	1%	2%	3%
		TOTAL	3,075	3,267	3,316	3,573	3½%	6%	1%	8%

Ø Excluding Government and inter-bank deposits. Definitions as used in Statistical Bulletin of Reserve Bank of Australia.

The growth in savings deposits (£124m. in 1959 as against £70m. in 1958) constituted about one half of the rise in money volume in 1959. About £11m. was added to fixed bank deposits (which was less than the increase in recent years) but other bank deposits rose by £110m. (after a decrease of £54m. in 1958) reflecting increased business activity, and there was also an increase of £12m. in cash circulation. The addition of £257m. to the volume of money during 1959 was about five times the increase of 1958 and equal to that of the export peak year of 1953.

Preliminary figures indicate that in 1959 there was trade export surplus of about £50m. (compared with an import surplus of the same amount in 1958) and that the capital inflow was also greater. As a result international reserves increased by £47m. to £547m. in December 1959, reversing the decrease of £90m. in the preceding year. There was an increase of only £60m. in bank advances, half of it with the savings banks, compared with an increase of £95m. in 1958, reflecting some restraint in trading banks' lending. Banks increased their security portfolios by about £130m. in 1959, or by three times as much as in 1958. The savings banks used the greater part (£80m.) of their increase in deposits in buying bonds, and the trading banks apart from adding £32m. to their own holdings invested a similar amount with money market dealers (who in turn invest in short-term Government securities).

SYDNEY STOCK EXCHANGE

Sydney share prices rose appreciably in the first half of January 1960 and, after a pause later in the month, again moved upward in the first week of February. The index number for 75 shares for January was 7% higher than in December 1959 and 43% higher than a year earlier.

INDEX OF SHARE PRICES - SYDNEY - YEAR 1948 to 1950 = 100

	Manufacturing & Distributing	Retail	Pastoral Companies	Insurance	75 Companies inc. Other	34 Active Shares
1951 - Peak	149	130	167	174	139	132
1956 - Low	112	119	126	124	112	108
1959 - Jan.	143	126	119	183	135	138
- Nov.	181	159	176	254	181	185
- Dec.	183	160	175	247	182	185
1960 - Jan.	194	178	184	251	193	196

MAJOR TRADING BANKS = Australia (See also graph p. 179)

Decreases of £6m. in deposits and of £8m. in advances during January 1960 paralleled those of £3m. and £12m. respectively in January 1959.

The increase in trading bank deposits so far this export season of £124m. (to £1735m.) between July-January 1959-60) was near that of earlier favourable trade years and £40m. greater than in July-January, 1957-58.

Advances fluctuated between £930m. and £950m. in recent months, and in January 1960 were £14m. more than a year earlier but as a proportion of deposits they had decreased from 57 per cent. to 54 per cent. The greater part of recent deposit increases was invested in public securities, and the liquid assets ratio (cash and securities to deposits) of 25% in January 1960 was the same as in 1959 and 1 per cent. above the ratio in January 1958.

MAJOR TRADING BANKS - BUSINESS WITHIN AUSTRALIA

Average of weekly figures	Deposits at Credit of Customers			Advances to Customers	General Bank Special Accts.	Public Securities	Treasury Bills	Cash Items	Ratio to Deposits		
	At Interest	Other	Total						Advances	Special A/c.	Securities
	£ million								Per cent.		
1957 - Jan.	350	1,195	1,545	856	271	199	87	84	55	18	24
1958 - Jan.	406	1,242	1,650	861	340	242	72	80	52	21	24
- Aug.	432	1,107	1,539	960	265	194	28	67	62	17	19
1959 - Jan.	439	1,184	1,623	920	265	263	60	79	57	16	25
- Mar.	440	1,222	1,662	886	250	304	83	66	53	15	27
- Aug.	458	1,156	1,614	934	250	276	29	64	58	16	23
- Dec.	454	1,287	1,741	942	285	310	23	84	54	16	24
1960 - Jan.	448	1,287	1,735	934	286	317	44	78	54	16	25

Statutory Reserve Deposit with Reserve Bank.

SAVINGS BANK DEPOSITS = New South Wales and Australia

The growth of savings deposits accelerated during the second half of 1959. In New South Wales the total at the end of the year, £514.9m., was £49.2m. or 11 per cent. more than in December 1958, contrasting with increases of about 7 per cent. in the two preceding years. Savings deposits increased in Australia by £123m., or 9 per cent., to £1460.5m. during 1959. Of the increase during the year 60 per cent. in New South Wales and 40 per cent. in Australia went to the private savings banks but increases in deposits with the Commonwealth and State Savings Banks were also much greater than in recent years. Australian savings deposits per head of population at the end of the year increased from £134 in 1958 to £144 in 1959. In New South Wales the average increased from £126 to £136 per head.

SAVINGS BANK DEPOSITS - New South Wales and Australia - £million

	NEW SOUTH WALES			AUSTRALIA			
	C'wealth Savings Banks	Other Savings Banks	All Savings Banks	C'wealth Savings Banks	State Savings Banks	Other Savings Banks	All Savings Banks
	Deposits at end of December						
1957	364.6	72.5	437.1	722.0	406.5	138.8	1267.3
1958	371.0	94.7	465.7	738.4	419.8	179.3	1337.5
1959	390.3	124.6	514.9	778.2	444.2	238.1	1460.5
	Change - December to December						
1955-56	- 3.5	+ 45.6	+ 42.1	+ 4.5	+ 6.8	+86.4	+ 97.7
1956-57	+ 4.0	+ 26.9	+ 30.9	+13.6	+12.2	+52.4	+ 78.2
1957-58	+ 6.4	+ 22.2	+ 28.6	+16.4	+13.3	+40.5	+ 70.2
1958-59	+19.3	+ 29.9	+ 49.2	+39.8	+24.4	+58.8	+123.0

P R I C E S = Australia (See also graph p. 179)

The principal Australian price indexes moved upward between December quarter 1958 and 1959. For retail prices the rise of about 2.5% was about the same as in 1958, and a similar rise in wholesale prices offset falls of the two preceding years. An appreciable recovery in prices for wool and some other primary products raised the export price index by 17% during 1959 and brought it back to the level of December quarter 1957. The import price series remained practically unchanged during the past 2½ years.

PRICE INDEXES - AUSTRALIA

PRICE INDEXES - AUSTRALIA

Quarter	Retail Price (1)		Wholesale Price	Export Price incl. gold	Import Price (Commwth. Bank)
	(a)	(b)			
	Base Year 1952-53 = 100				
December, 1956	114	113	108	91	104
December, 1957	115	115	105	80	106
December, 1958	118	118	104	68	107
June, 1959	120	120	107	76	106
December, 1959	121	121	107	79	not yet available
	PERCENTAGE CHANGE = DECEMBER QUARTER TO DECEMBER QUARTER				
1946 to 1956	+ 112% ^x	n.a.	+ 141%	+ 125%	+ 79%
1956 to 1957	+ 1	+ 2	- 2	- 12	+ 3
1957 to 1958	+ 3	+ 3	- 1	- 16	-
1958 to 1959	+ 3%	+ 3%	+ 3%	+ 17%	- 0

(1) Interim Retail Price Index, All Groups, Six Capital Cities. (a) Including and (b) Excluding potatoes and onions. 0 September quarters 1958 and 1959. ^x "C" Series Retail Price Index.

The rise of about 2½% in the Interim Retail Price Index (All Groups) between December quarter 1958 and 1959 was about the same as in the preceding year, and was due mainly to increases in the Rent series (5%) and Food series (3.3%), but there was also an increase of 1.7% for Clothing and Drapery following the trend of recent years. For Sydney and Perth the All Groups Index increased by 2.4% and 2.1% respectively during 1959 while in the other capitals it increased by from 2.8% to 3.4%, due to larger proportional increases in Rent and 'Other Items'. Compared with 1952-53, the base year of the index, the aggregate in December quarter 1959 was 120 for Sydney and Adelaide, 123 for Melbourne, 124 for Brisbane and Perth and 126 for Hobart.

INTERIM RETAIL PRICE INDEX = SIX CAPITAL CITIES = Year 1952-53 = 100

	F o o d		Clothing & Drapery	Rent	Other Items	ALL GROUPS	
	(a)	(b)				(a)	(b)
Dec. 1957	112	113	109	127	120	115	115
Dec. 1958	115	115	111	136	125	118	118
June 1959	118	113	111	139	125	120	120
Dec. 1959	119	119	112	143	127	121	121

(a). Includes. (b). Excludes potatoes and onions.

The Australian Wholesale Price Index (1936-7 to 1938-9 = 100) rose from 327 in January 1959 to 345 in August and eased to 341 in the last quarter of the year. Following the recovery in wool prices the Textile Fibres series advanced from August onward. The Rubber and Hides series rose sharply until September and there were lesser increases over the year for Building Materials and Foodstuffs. There was little change in the index for Goods Principally Imported but a 5% rise was shown in the home-produced goods series between December 1958 and 1959.

WHOLESALE PRICE INDEX - AUSTRALIA - Base 1936-7 to 1938-9 = 100 0

Month	Textile Fibres	Metal & Coal	Building Mater's.	Food & Tobacco	Rubber & Hides	Goods Principally		ALL GROUPS
						Import	Home Prd.	
Dec. 1957	419	399	457	319	293	304	348	335
Dec. 1958	337	390	420	322	267	282	348	328
Sept. 1959	405	388	425	339	414	276	369	342
Dec. 1959	411	389	433	338	359	280	366	341

0 Reconstructed series, excluding potatoes and onions. Sub-series for Oils, Fats and Waxes and Chemicals not shown here.

Dominated by fluctuations in wool prices (which have a weight of 46 out of 100) the Index of Australian Export Prices fell from 467 in May 1957 to 326 in December 1958, and then recovered to 390 in August and 389 in December 1959. For Wool the index at these dates was 626, 328, 445 and 437. The index for all Groups other than wool rose from 324 at the end of 1958 to 349 in December, 1959, consequent upon better prices for butter, metals and hides during 1959 which offset lower prices for wheat, sugar, dried fruits and tallow. A marked increase in meat prices during 1958 was not fully maintained last year. An index using actual export quantities as weights shows that in the year 1959 export prices including wool rose by 18% and excluding wool by 10%, as compared with a fall of 19% including wool and with no change excluding wool in the preceding twelve months.

EXPORT PRICE INDEX - Australia = Base 1936-37 to 1938-39 = 100

Month	Wool	Wheat	Butter	Metals	Meats	Sugar	Dried Fruits	Tallow	Hides	ALL GROUPS x	
										Total	Ex. Wool
Dec. 1957	445	359	225	372	290	481	346	365	243	369	305
Dec. 1958	328	353	242	389	404	470	391	375	285	326	324
Sept. 1959P	430	331	350	420	376	438	360	309	440	380	339
Dec. 1959P	437	333	367	436	n.a.	458	356	307	334	389	349

x. Series for gold, unchanged at 178 in period, not shown here.

The Commonwealth Bank's Import Price Index was very steady during the two years ended September 1959. Small increases for food and manufactured items were offset by moderate decreases for fuels, textiles and base metals. An index of the volume of imports derived from this price index and based on 1952/3-1954/5 = 100, shows a fall from 119 in 1955/6 to 102 in 1956/7 with a recovery to 110 in 1957/8 and 111 in 1958/9.

REAL ESTATE, MORTGAGES, LIENS = New South Wales

The value of real estate transfers registered in New South Wales, has risen progressively in recent years and increased by £36m. to £311m. in 1959. Transfers numbered 109,500 in 1959 and exceeded the previous record of 107,900 in 1951. The value of registered real estate mortgages rose correspondingly and reached £167m. in 1959, and, as in recent years, it was equivalent to a little more than one half of the value of transfers. During 1959 there was a decrease in the number of stock and crops given as security for liens and mortgages. They were less than in recent years and the numbers were only a fraction of the pre-war figures.

REAL ESTATE, MORTGAGES, LIENS - NEW SOUTH WALES

REAL ESTATE, MORTGAGES, LIENS - NEW SOUTH WALES									
S A L E S			M O R T G A G E S				L I E N S		
Average & Year	Number	Value	Real Estate Value	Livestock		On Wool		On Crops	
				Sheep	Value x	Sheep	Value	Number	Value
		£mill.	£mill.	mill.	£mill.	mill.	£mill.		£mill.
1936-38	44,400	36.1	23.8	5.18	1.8	7.36	3.0	4,200	1.7
1951	107,900	206.1	77.0	2.42	4.3	2.67	5.1	500	.4
1957	97,100	249.9	126.1	2.75	4.2	4.24	5.8	600	1.8
1958	102,000	275.0	150.3	3.24	3.0	4.85	5.8	1,000	2.6
1959	109,500	311.3	166.5	2.75	1.9	4.14	4.8	700	2.6

x. Mortgages on sheep, cattle and horses. Ø Preliminary only.

Dissection of real estate transfers by types shows that the rise in recent years was confined to turnover of urban properties.

CONVEYANCES AND TRANSFERS = NEW SOUTH WALES

CONVEYANCES AND TRANSFERS - NEW SOUTH WALES

Year	With Value Shown					Value not Shown	ALL TRANS-ACTIONS
	Urban	Rural	Urban	Rural	Total Value		
	Number		Value £ mill.			Number	
1956	81,100	4,400	178.3	42.5	220.8	6,100	91,600
1957	86,800	4,000	204.5	45.4	249.9	6,300	97,100
1958	91,100	4,200	230.4	44.6	275.0	6,700	102,000
1959	97,700	4,300	268.4	42.9	311.3	7,500	109,500

The average interest rate on first mortgages in New South Wales (excluding those granted by banks or Government agencies) rose steadily from 4.5% p.a. in the early post-war years to 7% in the middle of 1957, at which level it remained until early 1959. It then began rising again and averaged 7.2% in September quarter and 7.4% in December quarter.

HIRE PURCHASE = Australia and New South Wales

(Statistics relate to firms which finance retail sales but do not retail goods themselves. They are subject to revision.)

Hire purchase business continued to expand in 1959 but at a slower rate than in 1958. Balances outstanding in Australia had risen by £73m. in 1958 and increased by £58m. to £397m. in 1959; corresponding increases in New South Wales were £34m. and £27m. to £158m. Balances in New South Wales at the end of 1959 were equivalent to 40% of the Australian total. There were decreases in Australia in the number of hire purchase agreements for the sale of household and personal goods from 862,000 in 1958 to 831,000 in 1959, and in their value from £89m. to £82m. However, this was offset by an upward trend in the number and value of agreements for the sale of motor vehicles, plant and machinery, and the total number of new agreements rose from 1,276,000 in 1958 to 1,282,000 in 1959, the value of goods sold from £389m. to £1412m. and the amount financed from £258m. to £275m. In 1959 the average value per new agreement was £734 in the motor group £709 for plant and £98 for household goods; and the amount financed as a proportion of the net value of goods was 63%, 64% and 82% in the respective groups.

HIRE PURCHASE AGREEMENTS MADE BY FINANCE COMPANIES FOR GOODS SOLD AT RETAIL-YEARS

Particulars		1954-55	1955-56	1956-57	1958	1959
<u>NET VALUE OF GOODS - Australia</u>						
Motor Vehicles and Parts	£ mill.	191.7	213.0	225.0	280.1	306.9
Plant & Machinery	"	8.8	11.9	14.7	19.5	23.3
Household & Personal Goods	"	49.1	51.8	53.3	67.2	81.7
T o t a l	"	249.6	276.7	293.0	388.9	411.9
<u>AMOUNT FINANCED - Australia</u>						
Motor Vehicles & Parts	"	110.8	125.9	136.9	172.1	192.9
Plant and Machinery	"	5.4	7.4	9.1	12.6	15.0
Household & Personal Goods	"	39.8	42.1	42.8	72.8	67.4
T o t a l	"	156.0	175.4	188.8	257.5	275.3
<u>NUMBER OF AGREEMENTS - Australia</u>						
T o t a l	000	935	1,000	1,016	1,276	1,282
<u>BALANCES OUTSTANDING</u>						
End of Year : Australia	£ mill.	182.8	212.9	236.4	338.1	396.5
New South Wales	"	69.0	78.9	85.1	130.3	157.6

NEW SOUTH WALES ACCOUNTS

In the seven months ended January Governmental revenue of £81.1m. in 1960 was £10.9m. more than in that period of 1958-59. The major increases were those of £3.4m. in each tax reimbursements and stamp and probate duty collections. Governmental expenditure rose by £8.4m. to £89.2m. over the period. Higher receipts increased the surplus on Railway Working account in the seven months from £2.5m. in 1958-59 to £5.3m. in 1959-60, which was the best result for this period of any post-war year, and a deficiency on the Tram & Bus Services working account was reduced from £600,000 to £300,000. The overall deficiency of £2.4m. in the State accounts for the seven months was the smallest for six years. Gross loan expenditure of £29.1m. in the 1959-60 period compares with £28.9m. in 1958-59 and £30.4m. in 1957-58.

NEW SOUTH WALES ACCOUNTS - In £ millions

REVENUE	July - January			EXPENDITURE	July - January		
	1957-58	1958-59	1959-60		1957-58	1958-59	1959-60
Tax Reimbursements	33.0	35.5	38.9	Net Debt Charges	15.2	15.8	17.5
State Taxation	19.0	19.5	23.6	Other, excl. above			
Other Governmental	15.5	15.2	13.6	Governmental	61.2	65.0	71.7
Total Governmental	67.5	70.2	81.1	Total above	76.4	80.8	89.2
Railways	43.7	44.0	46.8	Railways	42.7	41.5	41.5
Tram & Bus Service	8.2	7.3	7.5	Tram & Bus Service	8.0	7.9	7.8
Sydney Harbour	1.7	1.7	1.2	Sydney Harbour	1.2	1.2	1.2
Total Business	53.6	53.0	56.2	Total Business	51.9	50.6	50.5
Total Revenue	121.1	123.2	137.3	Total Expenditure	128.3	131.4	139.7
GROSS LOAN EXPENDITURE ON WORKS & SERVICES					30.4	28.9	29.1

DEBITS TO CUSTOMERS' ACCOUNTS = New South Wales

Bank debits which reflect the level of financial transactions settled by cheque increased in New South Wales throughout 1959. Over the year debits averaged 12.4 per cent. more than in 1958, compared with increases of 4.0 per cent. from 1957 to 1958 and 11.0 per cent. from 1956 to 1957.

Bank Debits N.S.W.	Weekly Average - £ million				Per cent. Rise over previous Year			
	1956	1957	1958	1959	1956	1957	1958	1959
March Quarter	190.0	218.8	222.5	239.7	4%	15%	2%	8%
June "	208.5	232.0	233.7	260.2	5%	11%	1%	11%
Sept. "	200.6	224.0	233.3	272.2	4%	12%	4%	17%
Dec. "	226.2	241.1	260.8	295.7	7%	7%	8%	13%
Year	206.3	229.0	238.0	267.6	5%	11%	4%	12%

(Excluding Government accounts at city banks and Central Bank transactions).

PART III: RURAL INDUSTRIESTHE SEASON = New South Wales (See also graph p. 178)

As in earlier summer months most parts of the State received good rainfalls during January but heatwave conditions reduced the usefulness of the rain. Pastures and stock generally are reported to be in good condition for this time of the year.

RAINFALL INDEX - New South Wales "Normal Rainfall" - 100 for each period
Districts - N: Northern, C: Central, S: Southern, W: Western

Year	1944	1953	1954	1955	1956	1957	1958	1959
Sheep Districts	57	89	109	141	209	62	112	118
Wheat "	53	91	108	138	177	65	114	115
Dairying (Coastal)	79	94	134	122	130	70	104	148

	Sheep Districts					Wheat Districts				Coastal Dairying			Districts
	N	C	S	W	Total	N	C	S	Total	N	C	S	Total
1959													
July	134	131	87	80	112	107	113	72	88	149	95	173	139
August	9	14	44	32	24	4	16	37	28	86	147	48	97
Sept.	88	42	88	51	71	80	40	75	67	227	95	90	176
October	116	161	218	226	174	119	157	198	178	136	317	608	243
November	159	94	108	15	108	145	104	79	94	277	218	209	253
December	160	79	82	28	88	140	88	50	71	132	102	85	119
1960													
January	71	110	186	195	133	71	123	202	165	81	128	77	93

Dairying districts are enjoying a good season, and milk output of 187m. gall. in July-December 1959 was 15% more than last year and the highest for the period since the war. Most of the additional milk in the six months went into butter, the output of which exceeded 50m. lbs. in July-December for the first time in twenty years.

WHOLEMILK - PRODUCTION AND USE - NEW SOUTH WALES

WHOLEMILK - PRODUCTION AND USE - NEW SOUTH WALES							
	BUTTER		CHEESE	MILK BOARD DELIVERIES	PROCESSED MILK	OTHER USES	WHOLEMILK All Purposes
	m.lbs.	million gallons					
Year							
1956-57	76	162	9	76	15	44	306
1957-58	67	144	9	77	15	44	289
1958-59P	85	180	11	80	15	44	330
July-December							
1957	31	66.2	4.4	38.7	7.5	21.8	138.6
1958	40	85.9	5.8	39.5	9.0	22.0	162.2
1959	52	109.7	5.3	41.1	9.6	21.6	187.3

WOOL (See also graph p. 178)

Deliveries of 1.35m. bales of wool into the Sydney, Newcastle and Goulburn stores during the seven months ended January 1960 were 95,000 bales more than in this period of 1957-58 and near the record quantity of 1956-57. Deliveries in the first seven months of the season usually represent between 75% and 85% of the season's clip. Good clearances were made at auction, and unsold stocks of 379,000 bales at the end of January 1960 were lower than in 1959 or 1957. The average price realised per lb. of greasy wool at the August-January sales rose by 27%, from 46¹/_d. in the 1958-59 period to 59¹/_d. in 1959-60, and with the quantity sold 15% higher, proceeds increased from £52m. to £76m. In the seven months of 1956-57 and 1957-58, when prices were higher, proceeds were £90m. and £75m. respectively.

RECEIPTS AND DISPOSAL OF WOOL - New South Wales Stores, excluding Albury

	1956-57	1957-58	1958-59	1959-60		
	New South Wales			Sydney	Newcastle & Goulburn	Total
Carry-over from June	Quantity in Thousand Bales					
Carry-over from June	19	38	43	48	10	58
Receipts, July-Jan.	1357	1168	1253	996	352	1348
Total	1376	1206	1296	1044	362	1406
Disposals, July-Jan.	920	930	890	753	274	1027
Balance in Store at end of January	456	276	406	291	88	379
	Value of Sales in £ million					
July - January	89.8	75.0	52.2	55.5	20.1	75.6

Wool deliveries in the seven months of 1959-60 were greater than in 1958-59 in all States excepting Western Australian and the Commonwealth total increased from 3.79m. bales to 4.07m. bales. The sales volume increased correspondingly, and sales proceeds rose from £147m. to £212m. The average value per bales of greasy wool rose from £59 to £76 but the average weight per bale decreased from 30¹/₄lbs. to 30¹/₂lbs.

During January the market did not fully maintain the strength shown in December and prices tended to ease. However, the average of 58¹/_d. per lb. greasy (New South Wales full-clip basis) for the month was the same as for December and the highest price realised for two years.

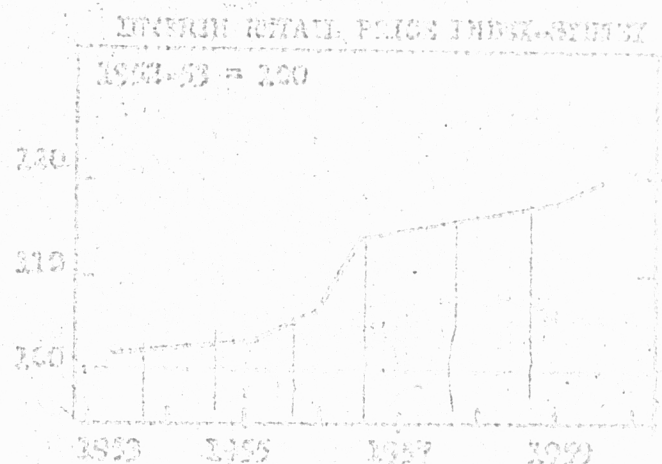
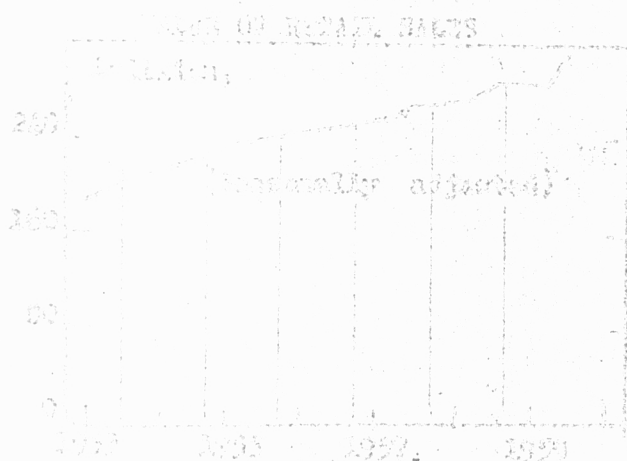
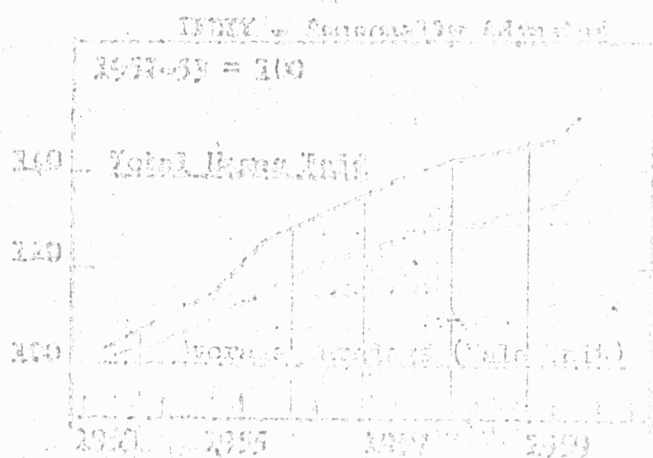
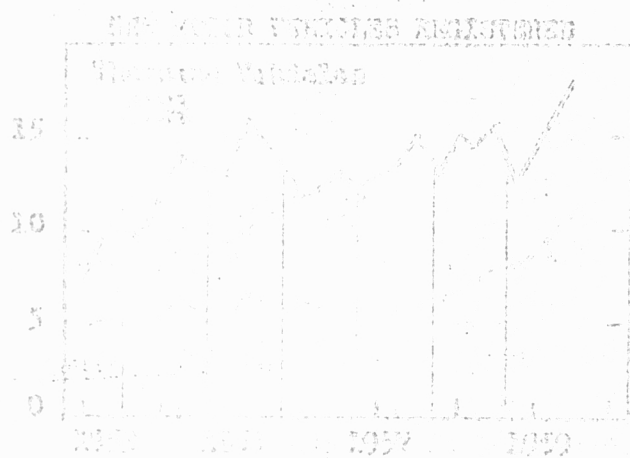
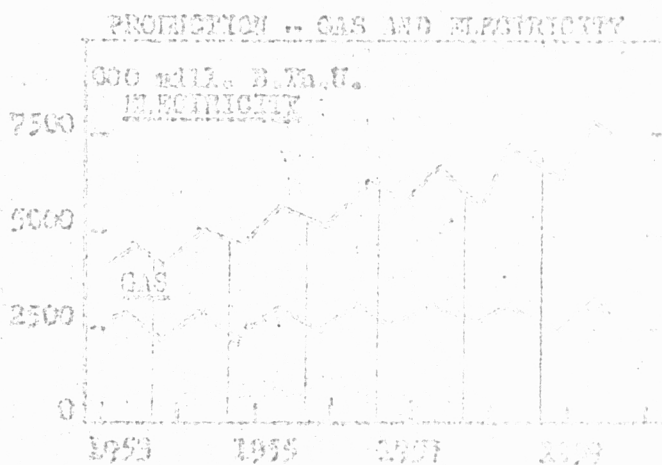
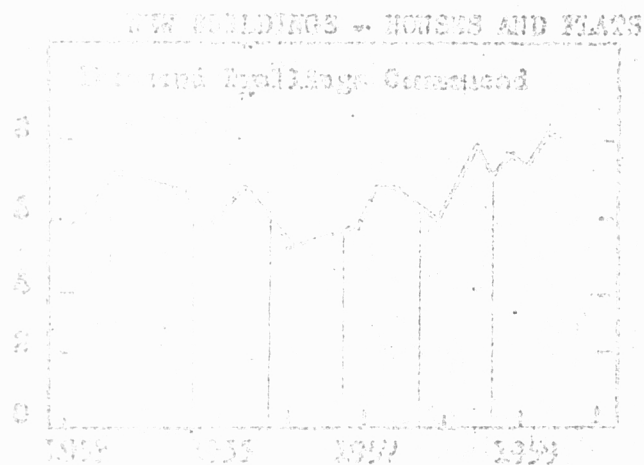
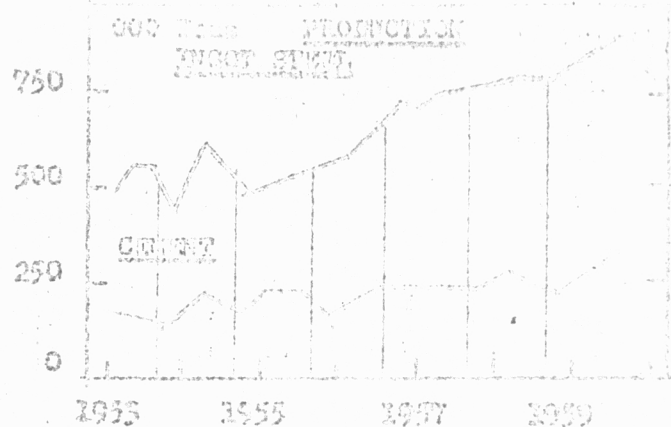
WOOL PRICE = N.S.W. = Pence per lb. greasy - (Average Price that would be realised if whole clip were sold at price level of month shown)

SEASON	August	September	October	November	December	January	June	Season
1955-56	60.0	58.0	58.0	58.0	60.0	61.0	67.0	61.6
1956-57	69.0	75.0	73.0	77.0	78.0	79.0	79.0	80.5
1957-58	73.0 N	72.0	66.0	64.0	59.0	60.0	53.0	62.8
1958-59	47.0 N	47.0	44.5	45.0	43.5	42.5	53.0	48.3
1959-60	59.0 N	57.0	57.0	56.0 P	58.0 P	58.0 P		

N. Nominal.

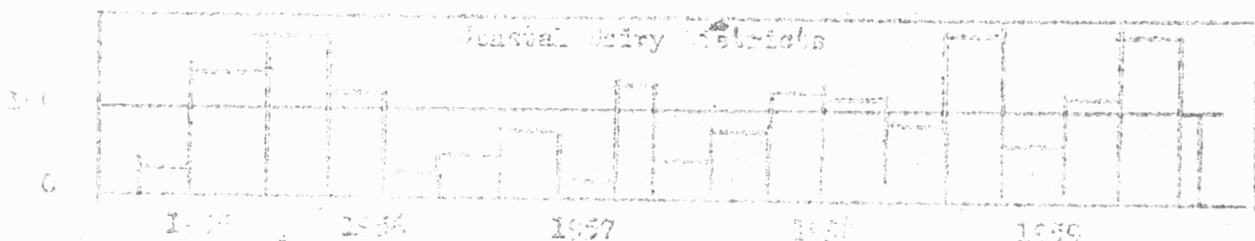
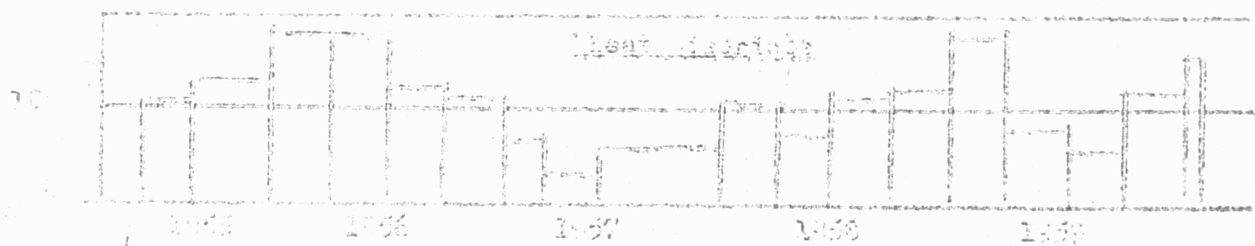
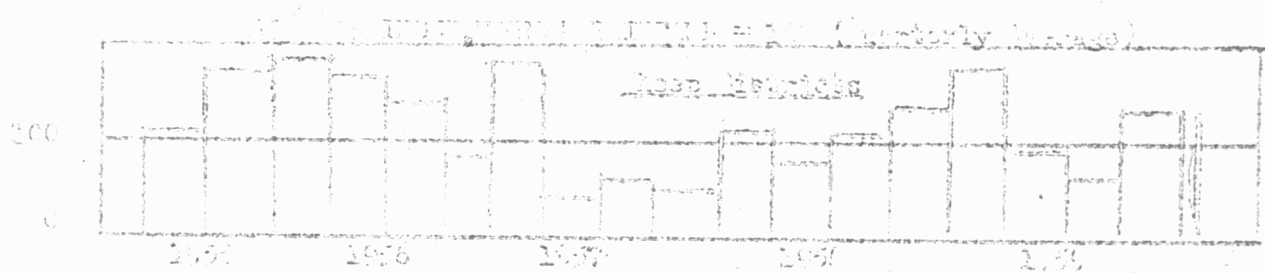
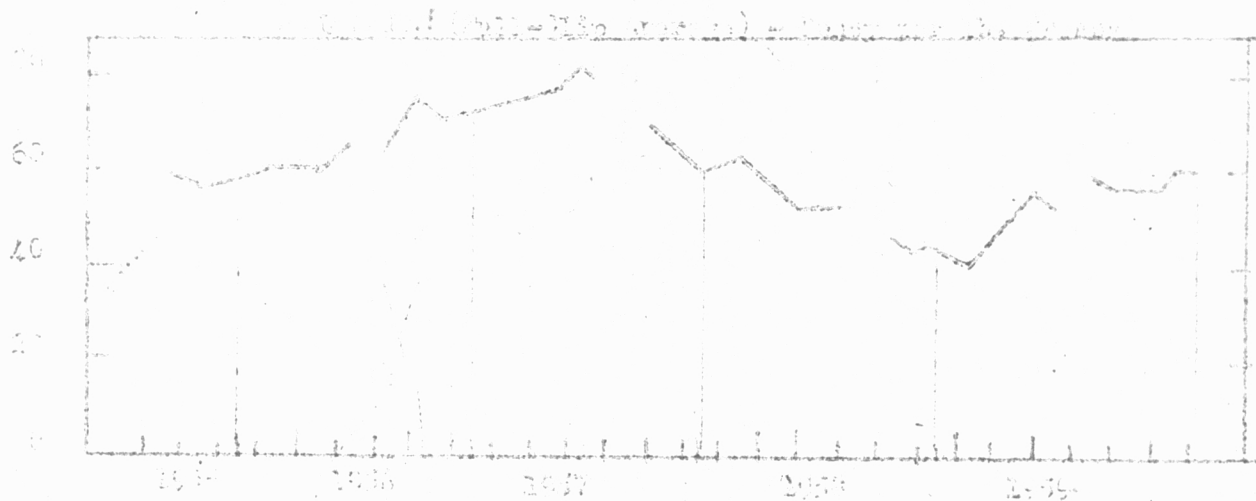
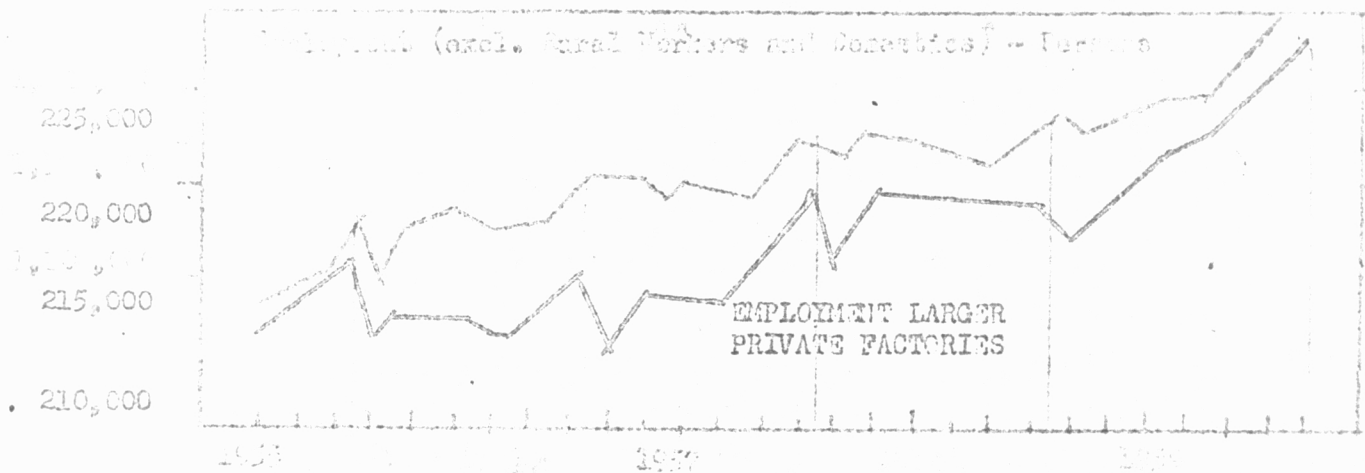
P. Preliminary.

NEW YORK STATE - COMPARATIVE STATISTICS



Continued in New York State Statistical Abstract, 1960, and up to December quarter 1959.

EMPLOYMENT IN THE LATE 1950S



Series start in July 1955 and go on to January, 1960.